

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 EA-06

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R 051803Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8479

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EEC, CA

SUBJECT: TRUDEAU/GENSCHER TALKS: CANADIAN/EC

CONTRACTUAL LINK

REF: USEC 1247

1. IN COURSE OF HIS MARCH 3-4 VISIT TO BONN, PRIME
MINISTER TRUDEAU MET WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, FORNMIN
GENSCHER, AND ECONMIN FRIEDERICH, AS WELL AS
WITH PRESIDENT SCHEEL. ACCORDING TO FORNOFFICE
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OFFICIAL FREITAG) WHO PARTICIPATED IN TRUDEAU/GENSCHER

MEETING ON MARCH 3, THE DISCUSSIONS CENTERED CHIEFLY ON CANADIAN INTEREST IN CONTRACTUAL LINK WITH THE COMMUNITY. OTHER DISCUSSIONS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

2. TRUDEAU EXPLAINED TO GENSCHER THE CANADIAN GOAL OF DIVERSIFYING ITS INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE RELATIONS. WHILE IN THIS RESPECT CANADA WANTS TO IMPROVE ITS TIES WITH JAPAN, ITS CHIEF INTEREST, ON CULTURAL/HISTORICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC GROUNDS, IS TO STRENGTHEN ITS RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE. TRUDEAU DID NOT GO INTO SPECIFICS CONCERNING FORM OF CONTRACTUAL LINK DESIRED BY CANADA. IN RESPONDING, GENSCHER ASSURED TRUDEAU THAT FRG SUPPORTED IN PRINCIPLE AN EC/CANADIAN CONTRACTUAL LINK, BUT HE TOO REFRAINED FROM SPECIFYING FORM THIS LINK SHOULD TAKE.

3. FREITAG TOLD US THAT THREE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO CANADIAN REQUEST HAVE BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION IN BRUSSELS: (1) AN EC/CANADIAN COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT; (2) AN EC/CANADIAN FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION; (3) POSTPONEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA UNTIL MTNS CONCLUDED. FRG OPPOSES A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT ON GROUNDS THAT IT COULD CONTAIN NOTHING BEYOND OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS ALREADY SET FORTH IN GATT. MOREOVER, CONCLUSION OF SUCH A BILATERAL AGREEMENT MIGHT TEND TO WEAKEN GATT, A DEVELOPMENT WHICH FRG WOULD OPPOSE.

4. FRG FAVORS AN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND CANADA WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN CANADA AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES. SINCE THE COMMISSION DOES NOT HAVE COMPETENCE IN THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION SPHERE, AND SINCE THE MEMBER STATES ARE LOATHE TO SURRENDER SOVEREIGNTY IN THIS AREA TO THE COMMISSION, FREITAG IS QUITE CERTAIN THAT THE COMMISSION WILL AT MOST BE GIVEN A MANDATE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCLUDE ONLY THE MOST GENERAL FORM OF COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CANADA.

5. AS FOR TIMETABLE, FREITAG SAID THAT TWO MORE ROUNDS OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN COMMISSION HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED IN APRIL AND MAY. FOLLOWING MAY TALKS, COMMISSION IS SUPPOSED TO PREPARE DRAFT MANDATE FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION. WHILE THE COMMISSION

HOPES THAT COUNCIL APPROVAL CAN BE OBTAINED BY
FALL, FREITAG EXPRESSED SOME SKEPTICISM THAT THIS
SCHEDULE WILL BE MET.
HILLENBRAND

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